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17753659.6 / 3 417 238

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(54) **VIAL WITH IMPROVED VISIBILITY FOR LEVEL**

(57) The present invention relates to a level 10, such as a spirit level, which may be used to determine if a surface is plumb (i.e., vertical), level (i.e., horizontal), or orientated at any other desired reference angle. The level 10 comprise a level body 12 and a vial 14, 18 supported by the level body 12. A first material and a second material are located within a cavity of the vial 14, 18. The first material is a liquid material. In some examples, the second material forms an indicator within the first

material, such that an interface is defined between the first and second materials, and a third material is also located within the cavity, the third material having a property that attracts the third material to the interface between the first material and the second material. In some such examples, a vial surround is mounted to the level body 12. In other examples, the second material is also a liquid material, and an indicating bubble is formed by the second material within the first material.

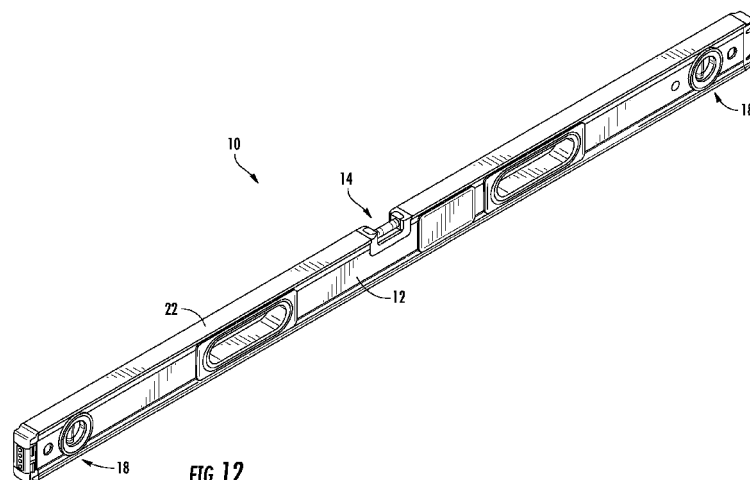


FIG. 12



PARTIAL EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

under Rule 62a and/or 63 of the European Patent Convention.
This report shall be considered, for the purposes of
subsequent proceedings, as the European search report

EP 24 20 4518

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
X	US 2006/254066 A1 (LANG YOEL [IL]) 16 November 2006 (2006-11-16)	4, 5	INV. G01C9/18
Y	* paragraphs [0006], [0026] - [0028] * -----	6	G01C9/24 G01C9/02 G01C9/32
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Y	* pages 12-13 * -----	6	
Y	US 3 905 707 A (FEIST WIELAND ET AL) 16 September 1975 (1975-09-16) * abstract * -----	6	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			G01C

INCOMPLETE SEARCH

The Search Division considers that the present application, or one or more of its claims, does/do not comply with the EPC so that only a partial search (R.62a, 63) has been carried out.

Claims searched completely :

Claims searched incompletely :

Claims not searched :

Reason for the limitation of the search:

see sheet C

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EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04E07)

Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner
The Hague	24 March 2025	Pascheka, Patrick
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		
T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document		

**INCOMPLETE SEARCH
SHEET C**

Application Number

EP 24 20 4518

Claim(s) completely searchable:

4-6

Claim(s) not searched:

1-3

Reason for the limitation of the search:

In response to the invitation pursuant to Rule 62a(1) EPC of 13-12-2024, Applicant elected claim 4 and its dependent claims with the response of 04-02-2025. The search is limited accordingly.

ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.

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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82